Tribal Watershed-based Planning for Improving Water Quality

Workshop Agenda

Objectives:

- To share the process of watershed planning with tribal representatives
- To assist in drafting part of a watershed plan
- To show how ongoing environmental efforts can be woven into a watershed plan

Outcomes:

By the end of the workshop, participants will

- Understand the process used to develop and implement a watershed plan.
- Describe a pre-selected priority watershed and analyze data for that watershed.
- Share lessons learned.

Tuesday, September 12

8:00–8:30	**Registration**
8:30–8:45	**Tribal Invocation**
8:45–9:15	**Welcome/Opening Remarks** **Goals for the Workshop** *(Rick Claggett, EPA Region 8)* **Introduction of Tribes and Key EPA Staff** *(Mitra Jha, EPA Region 8)*
9:15–10:00	**Setting the Stage: Watershed Management and the National Program Perspective** *(Dov Weitman, EPA Headquarters)*
10:00–10:15	**Break**
10:15–11:30	**Watershed Plans—Don't Reinvent the Wheel** • Why water quality strategic planning is important • How various water quality planning documents (Tribal Water Quality Strategic Plan, Watershed Plan, NPS Assessment, NPS Management Plan, 106 Workplan, 319 Workplan, Monitoring Strategic Plan) are related • Questions *(Carol Russell and Bernadette Gonzalez, EPA Region 8)*
11:30–12:00	**Case Study: Using a 106 Program to Transition into Watershed Management (Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes)** *(Paula Webster, CSKT, Jennifer Wintersteen, EPA Region 8)*
12:00–1:15	**Lunch** (on your own)

1:15–1:45 **Introduction to Watershed Plans**

- Review of nine key elements of a watershed plan
- Tribal grant guidelines (use of 106 and 319 grants to develop watershed plans)
- Questions

(Barbara Burkland, EPA Region 8)

1:45–3:00 **Areas Selected for Watershed Planning and Identification of Water Quality-based Goals**

- Participants will share information on the watersheds they have selected and identify water quality-based goals.

(EP and TAP)

3:00–3:15 **Break**

3:15–4:15 **Case Studies: Current Watershed Planning Efforts (Blackfeet and/or Ute Mountain Ute Tribe)**

- Process and pitfalls
- Working with states, federal agencies and other tribes
- Plan overview
- Current status
- Remaining tasks

[Ardis berthelman Blackfeet /Scott Clow Ute Mountain Ute Tribe]

4:15–5:00 **Small Group Exercise: Watershed Inventory**

- Participants will divide into small groups to begin identifying the information currently available for their selected watersheds. EPA will develop and provide a list of possible types of information to be used during this exercise.

(Tetra Tech, EP, and TAP)

5:00–5:15 **Daily Wrap-Up, Questions and Answers**

6:00–8:00 **Social Activities/Dinner** (pay your own way)
(Jennifer Harris, EPA Region 8)

Wednesday, September 13

8:30–10:00 **Identifying Data Gaps**

- Discussion of spatial, temporal and informational data gaps
- Where do data gaps exist in the watershed tribes have chosen? Tribes break up into same small groups as at end of day Tuesday and analyze the data gaps they have for their focus watersheds.

(Tony Ranalli and Toney Ott, EPA Region 8)

10:00–10:30	**Sharing What Was Learned about Data Gaps** *(Carol Russell and Judy Hervig, EPA Region 8)*
10:30–10:45	**Break**
10:45–11:45	**Establishing Criteria for Sediment and Nutrients** • What do your standards say? • What do the standards of nearby reservations or states say? • Will you be able to compare the data you are collecting to those standards? *(Jason Gildea, Tetra Tech and TBD, EPA Region 8)*
11:45–1:00	**Lunch** (on your own)
1:00–2:15	**Analyzing Data and Determining Impairment: What Does *Impaired* Mean?** *(George Parrish, EPA Region 8)*
2:15–3:30	**Small Group Exercise: Identifying Impaired Segments** • What segments of your selected watershed are impaired? Tribes return to small groups and compare their data to criteria to determine which stream segments are impaired. • Do land use practices affect these segments? *(Tetratech, EP, TAP)*
3:30–4:00	**Preparation for Field Trip**
4:00–6:00	**Field Trip to NPS Project Site, Crow Reservation** *(Optional)* *(Barbara Burkland and Jennifer Harris, EPA Region 8)*

Thursday, September 14

8:30–9:00	**Recap of Wednesday** *(Carol Russell, EPA Region 8)*
9:00–10:15	**Developing a Sampling Plan** • Presentation on sampling plans • Using the information gathered Wednesday, each tribe will develop a sampling plan for its selected watershed and discuss how that plan will fit with the tribe's overall 106 sampling plan. *(Tony Ranalli and Toney Ott, EPA Region 8)*
10:15–10:30	**Break**

10:30–12:00 **Concurrent Sessions**

A. NPS Program Overview

- The NPS Program
- NPS Assessments
- NPS Assessment Report
- NPS Management Program Plans
- Overview of some key tools, guidance, and Web resources
- Questions

(Mitra Jha and Jennifer Wintersteen, EPA Region 8)

B. Watershed Targets and Nutrient/Sediment Criteria

- TMDLs as watershed targets
- Additional discussion of nutrient and sediment criteria
- Questions

(George Parrish, EPA Region 8)

12:00–1:00 **Lunch** (on your own)

1:00–2:30 **Concurrent Sessions**

A. NPS Program Overview (continued)

- TAS process
- EPA grant programs
- Leveraging other funding sources (e.g., USDA, state)
- Partnerships and funding (particularly for transboundary watersheds)
- Overview of key tools and Web-available resources for funding
- Questions

(Mitra Jha and Jennifer Wintersteen, EPA Region 8, [Tt?])

B. Tools for Watershed Management

- *Load predictions and calculations*

(George Parrish, EPA Region 8)

2:30–2:45 **Break**

2:45–4:00 **Putting It All Together**

- Interactive session to identify the next steps tribes will take when they leave the workshop
- Identifying what has been most useful, what should be done differently and recommendations for future workshops
- Peer-to-peer support and mentoring program between tribes with mature NPS programs and those just getting started
- Opportunity to fill out Workshop Evaluations/Questions
- Concluding remarks

(Carol Russell/Jennifer Harris/Barb Burkland, EPA Region 8)